

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application. Applicants have submitted a new complete claim set showing any marked up claims with insertions indicated by underlining and deletions indicated by strikeouts and/or double bracketing.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An illuminator system for a flat-panel display, comprising:
a tapered ~~slab~~-waveguide (1) co-extensive with the display,
a plurality of light sources (2-4) each arranged to inject light at a different angle into an edge of the waveguide, wherein so that light injected from each of the light sources it emerges at different positions on a over the face of the waveguide based on the injection angle corresponding to each light source, and
means for scanning the emerging light associated with a light source injected into the wedge onto a portion of the display, wherein a position of the portion of the display corresponds to the position on the face of the waveguide at which the light emerges.
2. (Currently amended) An illuminator system according to claim 1, in which each the light source comprises consists of one or more addressable rows of elements, and the scanning means includes a circuit for addressing these rows of elements.
3. (Currently amended) An illuminator system according to claim 2, in which the light from the one or more rows of elements is collimated into the edge of the display-waveguide by a cylindrical mirror (5).
4. (Currently amended) An illuminator system according to claim 2, in which the light from

Type of Response: Amendment
Application Number: 10/559,891
Attorney Docket Number: 324003.07
Filing Date: December 6, 2005

the one or more rows of elements is collimated into the edge of the display-waveguide by a further waveguide-(8).

5. (Currently amended) An illuminator system according to claim 2, in which the one or more rows of elements comprises a plurality of ~~are~~ LEDs.

6. (Currently amended) An illuminator system according to claim 1, further including a filmsheet (6) for guiding the emerging-light emerging from the face of the waveguide towards at the normal to the face of the display-waveguide.

7. (Currently amended) A display comprising an illuminator system according to claim 1, used as a backlight, and a flat-panel modulator over the display-waveguide.

8. (Currently amended) A display according to any claim 7, in which the modulator is a liquid-crystal display.

9. (Currently amended) A display according to claim 2, in which at the scanning addressing circuit is synchronized with the row addressing circuit of the LCD.

10. (New) An illuminator system according to claim 1, wherein the waveguide is geometrically tapered.

11. (New) An illuminator system according to claim 1, wherein the waveguide is optically tapered.

12. (New) A method for illuminating a flat-panel display, comprising:
a) injecting light from a light source of a plurality of light sources at an injection angle into an edge of a tapered waveguide that is co-extensive with the display, wherein the injected

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light emerges from a position on a face of the waveguide based on the injection angle of the light source;

b) scanning light emerging from the position on the face of the waveguide onto a portion of the display, wherein a position of the portion of the display corresponds to the position on the face of the waveguide;

c) switching off the light source; and

d) sequentially repeating steps a) - c) for one or more other light sources of the plurality of light sources, wherein each of the plurality of light sources corresponds to a different injection angle, so that different portions of the display are illuminated in turn as each light source injects light into the edge of the waveguide.

13. (New) A method according to claim 12, wherein each light source comprises one or more addressable rows of elements.

14. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein light from the one or more rows of elements is collimated into the edge of the waveguide by a cylindrical mirror.

15. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the light from the one or more rows of elements is collimated into the edge of the waveguide by a further waveguide.

16. (New) A method according to claim 13, wherein the one or more rows of elements comprises a plurality of LEDs.

17. (New) A method according to claim 12, wherein the scanning further comprises guiding light emerging from the face of the waveguide towards a normal to the face of the waveguide.

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